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(54) Title: COMPOUNDS FOR AND METHOD OF INHIBITING PHOSPHODIESTERASE IV

(57) Abstract

Novel compounds which are effective PDE IV inhibitors are disclosed. The compounds possess similar or improved PDE IV inhibition as compared to rolipram, with improved selectivity with regard to, e.g., PDE III inhibition. Preferred compounds are 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-benzylamino)-4-hydroxymethyl pyrazole and 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-methoxymethylpyrazole.

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COMPOUNDS FOR AND METHOD OF INHIBITING PHOSPHODIESTERASE IV

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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Asthma is a complex disease involving the concerted actions of multiple inflammatory and immune spasmogens, inflammatory mediators, cytokines and growth In recent practice there have been four major classes of compounds used in the treatment of asthma, namely bronchodilators (e.g., β -adrenoceptor agonists), agents corticosteroids), anti-inflammatory (e.q., prophylactic anti-allergic agents (e.g., cromolyn sodium) which appear theophylline) and xanthines (e.g., anti-inflammatory bronchodilating and possess both activity.

Theophylline has been a preferred drug of first Although it has been choice in the treatment of asthma. bronchodilatory its direct touted for theophylline's therapeutic value is now believed to also Its mechanism of stem from anti-inflammatory activity. action remains unclear. However, it is believed that several of its cellular activities are important in its cyclic anti-asthmatic, including an activity as phosphodiesterase inhibition, adenosine nucleotide catecholamine of stimulation antagonism, receptor and its ability to increase the number and release, activity of suppressor T-lymphocytes. While all of these actually may contribute to its activity, inhibition may account for both the anti-inflammatory and bronchodilatory components. However, theophylline known to have a narrow therapeutic index, and a wide range of untoward side effects which are considered problematic.

Of the activities mentioned above, theophylline's activity in inhibiting cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterase has received considerable attention

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Cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterases (PDEs) recently. have received considerable attention as molecular targets Cyclic 3',5'-adenosine anti-asthmatic agents. 3',5'-quanosine cyclic (CAMP) and monophosphate monophosphate (cGMP) are known second messengers that mediate the functional responses of cells to a multitude of hormones, neurotransmitters and autocoids. two therapeutically important effects could result from phosphodiesterase inhibition, and the consequent rise in intracellular adenosine 3',5'-monophosphate (cAMP) guanosine 3',5'-monophosphate (cGMP)in key cells in the These are smooth muscle pathophysiology of asthma. and antirelaxation (resulting in bronchodilation) inflammatory activity.

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It has become known that there are multiple, distinct PDE isoenzymes which differ in their cellular distribution. A variety of inhibitors possessing a marked degree of selectivity for one isoenzyme or the other have been synthesized.

structure-activity relationships (SAR) of been discussed in isozyme-selective inhibitors has detail, e.g., in the article of Theodore J. Torphy, et al., "Novel Phosphodiesterases Inhibitors For The Therapy Of Asthma", Drug News & Prospectives, 6(4) May 1993, pages 203-214. The PDE enzymes can be grouped into five families according to their specificity toward hydrolysis of cAMP or cGMP, their sensitivity to regulation by their selective calmodulin cGMP, and calcium, orinhibition by various compounds. PDE I is stimulated by Ca2+/calmodulin. PDE II is cGMP-stimulated, and is found in the heart and adrenals. PDE III is cGMP-inhibited, and inhibition of this enzyme creates positive inotropic activity. PDE IV is cAMP specific, and its inhibition antiinflammatory relaxation, airway causes

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antidepressant activity. PDE V appears to be important in regulating cGMP content in vascular smooth muscle, and therefore PDE V inhibitors may have cardiovascular activity.

While there are compounds derived from numerous structure activity relationship studies which provide PDE III inhibition, the number of structural classes of PDE IV inhibitors is relatively limited. Analogues of rolipram, which has the following structural formula:

O NH

and of RO-20-1724, which has the following structural formula:

have been studied.

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Rolipram, which was initially studied because of its activity as an antidepressant has been shown to selectively inhibit the PDE IV enzyme and this compound has since become a standard agent in the classification of PDE enzyme subtypes. There appears to be considerable therapeutic potential for PDE IV inhibitors. Early work focused on depression as a CNS therapeutic endpoint and on inflammation, and has subsequently been extended to include related diseases such as dementia and asthma.

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In-vitro, rolipram, RO20-1724 and other PDE IV inhibitors have been shown to inhibit (1) mediator synthesis/release in mast cells, basophils, monocytes and eosinophils; (2) respiratory burst, chemotaxis and degranulation in neutrophils and eosinophils; and (3) mitogen-dependent growth and differentiation in lymphocytes (The PDE IV Family Of Calcium-Phosphodiesterases Enzymes, John A. Lowe, III, et al., Drugs of the Future 1992, 17(9):799-807).

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PDE IV (and possibly PDE V) is present in all the major inflammatory cells in asthma including eosinophils, neutrophils, T-lymphocytes, macrophages and endothelial Its inhibition causes down regulation of cellular activation and relaxes smooth muscle cells in the trachea and bronchus. On the other hand, inhibition of PDE III, which is present in myocardium, causes an increase in both the force and rate of cardiac contractility. are undesirable side effects for an anti-inflammatory Theophylline, a non-selective PDE inhibitor, inhibits both PDE III and PDE IV, resulting in both undesirable effects and anti-asthmatic desirable cardiovascular stimulation. With this well-known distinction between PDE isozymes, the opportunity for concomitant anti-inflammation and bronchodilation without many of the side effects associated with theophylline The increased incidence therapy is apparent. morbidity and mortality due to asthma in many Western countries over the last decade has focused the clinical emphasis on the inflammatory nature of this disease and the benefit of inhaled steroids. Development of an agent that possesses both bronchodilatory and antiinflammatory properties would be most advantageous.

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It appears that selective PDE IV inhibitors should be more effective with fewer side effects than

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theophylline. Clinical support has been shown for this hypothesis.

Attempts have therefore been made to find new compounds having more selective and improved PDE IV inhibition.

OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is accordingly a primary object of the present invention to provide new compounds which are effective PDE IV inhibitors.

It is another object of the present invention to provide new compounds which act as effective PDE IV inhibitors with lower PDE III inhibition.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide new compounds which have a superior PDE IV inhibitory effect as compared to rolipram or other known compounds.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide new compounds which have a substantially equal or superior PDE IV inhibitory effect as compared to known chemical compounds, and which exhibit surprisingly greater selectivity with regard to their inhibitory effects.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method of treating a patient requiring PDE IV inhibition.

It is another object of the present invention to provide new compounds for treating disease states associated with abnormally high physiological levels of cytokine, including tumor necrosis factor.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method of synthesizing the new compounds of this invention.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method for treating a mammal suffering from a

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disease state selected from the group consisting of asthma, allergies, inflammation, depression, dementia and disease states associated with abnormally high physiological levels of cytokine.

With the above and other objects in view, the present invention mainly comprises a compound of the formula:

$$R_{2}$$
— X_{2}
 X_{1}
 R_{1}

wherein:

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 X_1 and X_2 may be the same or different and each is O or S;

 $R_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}$ and $R_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}$ may be the same or different and each are saturated or unsaturated straight-chain or branched alkyl groups containing from 1 to 12 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl and cycloalkyl-alkyl groups containing from 3 to 7 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl moiety; and aryl and arylalkyl groups preferably containing from 6 to 10 carbon atoms, which are unsubstituted or substituted by lower alkyl groups having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, one or more hydroxyl groups, cyano groups, nitro halogen atoms, groups, carboxyl groups, alkoxy groups, alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido or substituted or unsubstituted amino groups, heterocyclic groups containing more one or nitrogen, oxygen and/or sulfur in the ring, or one of R_1 and R, are hydrogen and the other represents a hydrocarbon group as set forth above;

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 R_3 is hydrogen, halogen or a saturated or unsaturated straight-chain or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl and cycloalkyl-alkyl groups containing from 3 to 7 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl moiety; or an aryl or aralkyl group preferably containing from 6 to 10 carbon atoms, which groups are unsubstituted or substituted by one or more halogen atoms, hydroxyl groups, cyano groups, nitro groups, alkoxycarbonyl, groups, alkoxy carboxyl groups, carboxamido or substituted or unsubstituted amino groups, heterocyclic groups containing one ornitrogen, oxygen or sulfur in the ring;

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Z is a bond or a bridging (linking) group containing from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, wherein one of the carbon atoms in the bridging group may be replaced by nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur. The carbon atoms in the bridging group may be saturated or unsaturated and may be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms (e.g., chlorine, bromine, fluorine, iodine), lower alkyl groups having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxyl groups, cyano groups, carboxyl groups, alkoxy groups, carbonyl groups, alkoxycarbonyl groups, or substituted or unsubstituted amino groups;

 R_4 is a 5-membered heterocyclic group which contains one or more or nitrogen, oxygen and/or sulfur atoms. The heterocyclic group may be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halogen atoms, C_{1-4} alkyl hydroxyl groups, cyano groups, nitro groups, carboxyl groups, C_{1-4} alkoxylcarbonyl groups, alkoxy groups, alkoxycarbonyl, amido, carboxamido, or substituted or unsubstituted amino groups. The heterocyclic group may also be substituted with alkyl, cycloalkyl and cycloalkyl-alkyl groups containing from 3 to 7 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl moiety, aryl or arylalkyl groups preferably containing

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from about 6 to about 10 carbon atoms, or heterocyclic groups containing nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur in the ring, which groups are unsubstituted or substituted by halogen atoms, hydroxyl groups, cyano groups, carboxyl groups, C_{1-4} alkoxy groups, alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido or substituted or unsubstituted amino groups, or one or more lower alkyl groups having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; provided that R_4 is other than 4-imidazolinone or 4-pyrolidinone.

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The term "lower alkyl" is defined for purposes of the present invention as straight or branched chain radicals having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

invention, as present compounds of the The demonstrated in the appended examples, are effective in the mediation or inhibition of PDE IV in humans and other Further, these compounds are selective PDE IV mammals. bronchodilatory both which possess inhibitors substantially without antiinflammatory properties undesirable cardiovascular stimulation caused by PDE III inhibition. Many of these compounds have a substantially equal or superior PDE IV inhibitory effect as compared to theophylline.

The present invention is further related to a method for the treatment of allergic and inflammatory disease which comprises administering to a mammal in need thereof an effective amount of the compounds of the present invention.

The present invention is also related to a method for the mediation or inhibition of the enzymatic or catalytic activity of PDE IV activity in mammals, particularly humans, which comprises administering an effective amount of the above-described compounds of the invention to a mammal in need of PDE IV inhibition.

The compounds of the present invention may find use in the treatment of other disease states in humans and other mammals, such as in the treatment of disease states associated with a physiologically detrimental excess of tumor necrosis factor (TNF). TNF activates monocytes, macrophages and T-lymphocytes. This activation has been implicated in the progression of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection and other disease states related to the production of TNF and other cytokines modulated by TNF.

In certain preferred embodiments, the compounds of the present invention comprise the formula:

$$R_2 - X_2$$
 X_1
 R_1

wherein:

 $R_{\rm 2}$ is hydrogen or branched or straight chain alkyl of 1-12 carbon atoms, preferably lower alkyl, most preferably methyl or ethyl, and $R_{\rm 1}$ is alkyl of 1-12 carbon atoms, which may be substituted by one or more halogens, or cycloalkyl of 3-6 carbon atoms, preferably cyclopentyl which may be substituted by $R_{\rm 5}$ as shown in the following structural formula:

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wherein $R_{\rm s}$ is hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated straight-chain lower alkyl group containing from about 1 to about 6 carbon atoms, unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halogen atoms, hydroxyl groups, cyano groups, nitro groups, carboxyl groups, alkoxy groups, alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido or substituted or unsubstituted amino groups;

 R_3 is hydrogen, lower alkyl or halogen;

Z is a linkage selected from a bond, -NH-, -CH₂-, -CH₂CH₂-, -CH₂NH-, CH₂N (Me), NHCH₂-, -NH-, -CH₂CONH-, -NHCH₂CO-, -CH₂CO-, -COCH₂-, -CH₂COCH₂-, -CH(CH₃)-, -CH=, and -HC=CH-;

 $\rm X_1$ and $\rm X_2$ may be the same or different and each is O or S; and

 $\ensuremath{R_4}$ is an unsubstituted or substituted pyrazole, imidazole, or triazole as set forth previously.

In one preferred embodiment, R_4 is a substituted pyrazole having the following structure:

wherein R_6 is a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl having from about 1 to about 3 carbon atoms.

In a particularly preferred embodiment of the present invention, the compounds have the formula:

$$R_2$$
 X_2
 X_1
 X_1
 X_1
 X_1
 X_1
 X_1

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where X_1 and X_2 may be the same or different and each is 0 or S;

 R_1 is alkyl of 1-12 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl of 3-6 carbon atoms, which cycloalkyl may be substituted by one or more alkyl groups or by one or more halogens;

R₂ is hydrogen or alkyl of 1-12 carbon atoms;

R₃ is hydrogen, lower alkyl or halogen;

Z is a linkage selected from a bond, -NH-, -CH₂-, -CH₂CH₂-, -CH₂NH-, NHCH₂-, -NH-, -CH₂N(Me)-,-CH₂CONH-, -NHCH₂CO-, -CH₂CO-, -COCH₂-, -CH₂COCH₂-, -CH(CH₃)-, -CH=, and -HC=CH-; and

R₇ is C or CH₂C.

One preferred compound of the present invention is 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-hydroxymethyl pyrazole.

In certain preferred embodiments, compounds of the present invention are prepared by the two-step process shown below for the preferred compound of the invention, 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-hydroxymethyl pyrazole.

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$$R_2O$$
 O
 CH
 H_2N
 R_7O_2H
 $NaBH_3CN$

$$R_2O$$
 R_2O
 R_2O

The condensation of 3-cyclopentyloxy-430 methoxybenzaldehyde with 3-amino-4-pyrazolecarboxylic
acid in the presence of sodium cyanoborohydride produces
3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4pyrazolecarboxylic acid in 48% yield. Treatment with
excess borane-tetrahydrofuran complex in tetrahydrofuran

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solution gives 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-hydroxymethylpyrazole (Example 1) in 40% yield.

In other embodiments where R_4 is an imidazole, triazole or pyrazole, the compounds can be synthesized by reductively condensing 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde with amino heterocycles using sodium cyanoborohydride. The reaction is shown below.

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The compounds of the present invention have been found to be highly effective PDE IV inhibitors, the inhibition of which is in fact significantly and surprisingly greater than that of theophylline.

Thus, the concentration which yields 50% inhibition of PDE IV (IC₅₀) for 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-hydroxymethyl pyrazole is 16 nM (0.016 μ M), whereas the IC₅₀ for rolipram when run in the same assay was 4.5 μ M. Historically, the IC₅₀ for rolipram is considered to be 3.5 μ M. In any case, it is apparent that Example 1 of the present invention is several hundred times as effective as a PDE IV inhibitor as compared to rolipram.

By comparison, PDE III inhibition of Example 1 of the present invention is within 1 order of magnitude of that of rolipram, and therefore relative to the percentage increase in PDE IV inhibition, it is clear

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that the compound of the invention is much more highly selective as a PDE IV inhibitor than rolipram.

Accordingly, the compounds of the present invention can be administered to anyone requiring PDE IV inhibition. Administration may be orally, topically, by suppository, inhalation or insufflation, or parenterally.

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present invention also encompasses the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of foregoing One skilled in the art will recognize that compounds. acid addition salts of the presently claimed compounds may be prepared by reaction of the compounds with the appropriate acid via a variety of known methods. Alternatively, alkali and alkaline earth metal salts are prepared by reaction of the compounds of the invention with the appropriate base via a variety of known methods. For example, the sodium salt of the compounds of the invention can be prepared via reacting the compound with sodium hydride.

Various oral dosage forms can be used, including such solid forms as tablets, gelcaps, capsules, caplets, granules, lozenges and bulk powders and liquid forms such as emulsions, solution and suspensions. The compounds of the present invention can be administered alone or can be pharmaceutically acceptable various combined with carriers and excipients known to those skilled in the art, including but not limited to diluents, suspending binders, disintegrants, solubilizers, preservatives, coloring agents, lubricants and the like.

When the compounds of the present invention are incorporated into oral tablets, such tablets can be compressed, tablet triturates, enteric-coated, sugar-coated, film-coated, multiply compressed or multiply layered. Liquid oral dosage forms include aqueous and nonaqueous solutions, emulsions, suspensions,

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and solutions and/or suspensions reconstituted from non-effervescent granules, containing suitable solvents, preservatives, emulsifying agents, suspending agents, diluents, sweeteners, coloring agents, and flavorings agents. When the compounds of the present invention are to be injected parenterally, they may be, e.g., in the form of an isotonic sterile solution. Alternatively, when the compounds of the present invention are to be inhaled, they may be formulated into a dry aerosol or may be formulated into an aqueous or partially aqueous solution.

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In addition, when the compounds of the present invention are incorporated into oral dosage forms, it is contemplated that such dosage forms may provide an immediate release of the compound in the gastrointestinal tract, or alternatively may provide a controlled and/or sustained release through the gastrointestinal tract. A wide variety of controlled and/or sustained release formulations are well known to those skilled in the art, and are contemplated for use in connection with the formulations of the present invention. The controlled and/or sustained release may be provided by, e.g., a coating on the oral dosage form or by incorporating the compound(s) of the invention into a controlled and/or sustained release matrix.

Specific examples of pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and excipients that may be used for formulate oral dosage forms, are described in the <u>Handbook of Pharmaceutical Excipients</u>, American Pharmaceutical Association (1986), incorporated by reference herein. Techniques and compositions for making solid oral dosage forms are described in <u>Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms: Tablets</u> (Lieberman, Lachman and Schwartz, editors) 2nd edition, published by Marcel Dekker, Inc., incorporated

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by reference herein. Techniques and compositions for making tablets (compressed and molded), capsules (hard and soft gelatin) and pills are also described in Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences (Arthur Osol, editor), 1553-1593 (1980), incorporated herein by reference. Techniques and composition for making liquid oral dosage forms are described in Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms: Disperse Systems, (Lieberman, Rieger and Banker, editors) published by Marcel Dekker, Inc., incorporated herein by reference.

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When the compounds of the present invention are incorporated for parenteral administration by injection (e.g., continuous infusion or bolus injection), the formulation for parenteral administration may be in the form of suspensions, solutions, emulsions in oily or aqueous vehicles, and such formulations may further comprise pharmaceutically necessary additives such as stabilizing agents, suspending agents, dispersing agents, and the like. The compounds of the invention may also be in the form of a powder for reconstitution as an injectable formulation.

The dose of the compounds of the present invention is dependent upon the affliction to be treated, the severity of the symptoms, the route of administration, the frequency of the dosage interval, the presence of any deleterious side-effects, and the particular compound utilized, among other things.

The PDE IV inhibitory compounds of the present invention may be examined for their PDE IV inhibitory effects via the techniques set forth in the following examples, wherein the ability of the compounds to inhibit PDE IV isolated from bovine tracheal smooth muscle is set forth.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The following examples illustrate various aspects of the present invention, and are not to be construed to limit the claims in any manner whatsoever.

EXAMPLE 1

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3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy benzylamino)-4-hydroxymethylpyrazole

The above-mentioned compound was prepared by a twostep process as set forth below:

A: 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-benzylamino)-4-pyrazolecarboxylic acid

A suspension of 3-amino-4-pyrazole carboxylic acid methanol in 400 ml of mmol) cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (5.06 g, 23 mmol) was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours with sodium cyanoborohydride, 1.85 g (95% pure, 28 mmol). methanol was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was taken up in 100 ml of 15% sodium hydroxide and extracted twice with 100 ml portions of ether. aqueous layer was acidified to pH 5 with 5 N hydrochloric acid and extracted twice with 100 ml portions of ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate was dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated. The residue was triturated with ether to give 3.7 g of 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-Pure 3-(3-(48.7%). acid 4-pyrazolecarboxylic cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)pyrazole carboxylic acid shows mp. 134-136°C after crystallization from methanol.

B: <u>3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-</u> hydroxymethylpyrazole

Pure 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-pyrazolecarboxylic acid (compound 3) (1.32 g, 4.0 mmol) was dissolved in 50 ml of THF and cooled to -15°C under nitrogen. Borane-tetrahydrofuran (30 ml of 1 M solution,

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30 mmol) was added over 30 minutes and the resulting solution was stirred for 72 hours at room temperature. (30 ml) was added to the reaction and evaporated under reduced pressure. The solvent was 160 ml of methanol treated with and residue was The crude product was treated with 30 evaporated again. of 10% aqueous ammonia and some brine and then extracted with three 50 ml portions of ethyl acetate. Evaporation of the solvent afforded 1.1 g of crude 3-(3cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4purified hydroxymethylpyrazole which was flash chromatography on 30 g of flash chromatography silica Elution with ethyl acetate/hexane (1:4) afforded a small amount of material which was discarded. Elution with 60 ml of 1:1 ethyl acetate/hexane gave 600 mg of 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4hydroxymethylpyrazole which was recrystallized from 2 ml of toluene to give 500 mg of pure 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4methoxybenzylamino) -4-hydroxymethylpyrazole (compound 4) mp 129-130°C.

EXAMPLE 2

3-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4methoxybenzyl-amino)-4-pyrazolecarboxamide

To stirred suspension of 3-amino-4pyrazolecarboxamide hemisulfate (0.005 mole) was added 0.14 g of potassium hydroxide (KOH), 3-cyclopentyloxy-4methoxybenzaldehyde (0.88 g, 0.004 mole), and 95% sodium cyanoborohydride (0.33 g, 0.004 mol). Stirring was continued at room temperature for 24 hours after which KOH (0.56 g) was added and the solvent was evaporated The residue was treated with 50 under reduced pressure. ml of brine and extracted twice with 50 ml portions of The ethyl acetate was evaporated under ethyl acetate. reduced pressure and the residue was triturated with

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ether to give 0.4g of the crude title compound. Crystallization from 15 ml of acetone gave 0.25 g (15%) of the pure title compound, mp 128-130°C.

EXAMPLE 3

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3-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-1,2,4-triazole

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To a stirred solution of 3-amino-1,2,4-triazole (1.5 g, 0.018 mol), 7.5 ml of 1 N HCl, and 50 ml of methanol was added 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (3.3 g, 0.015 mol) and sodium cyanoborohydride (0.945 g, 0.015 mol). A precipitate formed slowly and after 20 hours the precipitate was filtered and recrystallized from methanol (135 ml) to give 1.0 g (0.0034 mol, 23%) of the title compound, mp 203-204°C.

Example 4

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3-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)pyrazole

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To a solution of 3-aminopyrazole (1.5 g, 0.018 mol) in 50 ml of methanol and 7.5 ml of 1N aqueous HCl was 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde 0.015 mol) and 95% sodium cyanoborohydride (1.0 g, 0.015 The solution was stirred at room temperature for 20 hours after which concentrated aqueous hydrochloric acid (Hcl) was added to pH 2. The solvent was evaporated at reduced pressure and the residue was extracted twice The ether extracts were with 50 ml portions of ether. discarded and the aqueous solution was brought to pH 10 with 5N aqueous NaOH. The mixture was extracted twice with 50 ml portions of ethyl acetate. The combined ethyl acetate extracts were dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated. solid residue was triturated with ether to give the pure title compound (1.3 g, 30%), mp 106-110°C.

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Example 5

5-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-1,2,3-triazole

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To a stirred solution of 5-amino-1,2,3-triazole (3.0 g, 0.036 mol) in 100 ml of methanol and 15 ml of 1 N HCl was added sodium cyanoborohydride (1.89 g, 0.030 mol) and 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (6.6 g, 0.30 mol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 64 hours and then acidified to pH 2 with concentrated The solution was evaporated at reduced pressure and the residue was treated with water (100 ml) and extracted twice with 100 ml portions of ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate extracts were combined and extracted twice with 50 ml portions of 3N HCl and then discarded. The aqueous extracts were combined with the original aqueous layer and basified to pH 12 with potassium hydroxide pellets. The alkaline solution was extracted twice with 100 ml The ethyl acetate extracts portions of ethyl acetate. were combined and evaporated to give a solid which was crystallized from ethyl acetate to give 2.9 g (34%) of the title compound mp 113-114°C collected in two crops.

Example 6

2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)imidazole

A stirred suspension of 2-aminoimidazole sulfate (5.67 g, 0.043 mol) in 100 ml of methanol was treated with solid KOH (0.65 g, 0.011 mol) followed by 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (7.26 g, 0.033 mol). To this mixture was added dropwise over 30 minutes solution of 95% sodium cyanoborohydride (2.2 g, 0.33 mol) in methanol (30 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 64 hours after which solid KOH (2.45 g, 0.055 mol) was added. After the KOH had dissolved, the mixture was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated

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The residue was treated with under reduced pressure. saturated NaCl and extracted three times with 50 ml The combined ethyl acetate portions of ethyl acetate. extracts were extracted twice with 5N aqueous HCl. acetate yielded Evaporation of the ethyl unreacted 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde. aqueous HCl extract was basified to pH 12 with solid KOH and extracted twice with 50 ml portions of ethyl acetate. Evaporation of the ethyl acetate afforded 2.4 g of a brown oil which was purified by flash chromatography over Elution with 40 g of flash chromatography silica gel. methylene chloride-methanol mixtures afforded 1.8 g of the title compound eluted with 5% methanol-methylene The 1.8 g of material was treated with solution of picric acid (5 g, 0.021 mol) in 50 ml of collected picrate (1.9 g) was ethanol. The recrystallized from 25 ml of ethanol to give 1.7 g of the The picrate (1.5 g) was dissolved in 200 pure picrate. ml of ethyl acetate and extracted 5 times with 25 ml portions of 2N aqueous LiOH. The ethyl acetate solution was evaporated and the residue (0.9 g) was purified by flash chromatography over 40 g of silica gel, eluting with methanol-methylene chloride mixtures to give 0.5 g of the material which was crystallized from 15 ml of ethyl acetate to give 0.3 g (3%) of the pure title compound, mp 114-115°C.

Example 7

3-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzyl-amino)-4-pyrazolecarboxylic acid

To a suspension of 3-aminopyrazole-4-carboxylic acid (3.56 g, 0.023 mol) in 400 ml of methanol was added 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (5.06 g, 0.023 mole) and 95% sodium cyanoborohydride (1.85 g, 0.028 mol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 16 hours and then the

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methanol was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was treated with 100 ml of 15% aqueous NaOH and extracted twice with 100 ml portions of ether. The aqueous layer was acidified to pH 5 with 5 N aqueous HCl and extracted twice with 100 ml portions of ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate extracts were evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was triturated with ether to give 3.7 g (49%) of the title compound, mp 134-136°, after recrystallization from methanol.

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5-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzal)hydantoin

diethyl stirred solution of To hydantoylphosphonate (10 g, 42.3 mmol) and triethylamine (5.70 g, 56 mmol), in dry acetonitrile (100 ml), at room temperature was added a solution of 3-cyclopentyloxy-4methoxybenzaldehyde (8 g, 36.3 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (75 ml), dropwise over 30 minutes. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight, after which volatiles were removed in vacuo. The residue was diluted with 0.05N HCl (120 ml) and the precipitate collected by Recrystallization of this material with methylene chloride/methanol/diethyl ether afforded the title compound as a pale yellow solid (8.54 g). m.p. 220-222°C.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃; 250 MHz) δ 7.72 (brs, 1H), 7.66 (brs, 1H), 6.90 (m, 3H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 4.79 (m, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 1.84 (m, 6H), 1.62 (m, 2H).

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EXAMPLE 9

4-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzyl)-5-methyl-pyrazol-3-one

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A. (E)/(Z)Ethyl 2-acetyl-3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-propenoate

To a stirred solution of 3-cyclopentyloxy-4methoxybenzaldehyde (4.0 22.69 mmol) and q, acetoacetate (2.95 q, 22.67 mmol) in benzene (60 ml) were added piperidine (104 mg, 1.22 mmol) and glacial acetic acid (286 mg, 4.76 mmol) in one portion. The resulting solution was refluxed at 85°C for 3 hours with continuous removal of water. Further piperidine (208 mg, 2.44 mmol) and glacial acetic acid (858 mg, 14.28 mmol) were added and refluxing continued for a further 5 hours. mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with diethyl ether (300 ml). The organics were washed successively with 5% aqueous HCl (100 ml) and water (2 x The resulting etheral extracts were dried 100 ml). (Na,SO4) and concentrated in vacuo to give a deep orange The oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO2; ethyl acetate/hexane (3:7)) to afford the title compound as an orange oil (983 mg).

¹H (CDCl₃; 250 MHz) δ 7.57 and 7.46 (2s, 1H), 6.92 (m, 3H), 6.92 (m, 3H), 4.70 (m, 1H), 4.34 and 4.26 (2q, 2H), 3.87 and 3.86 (2s, 3H), 2.39 and 2.37 (2s, 3H), 1.87 (m, 6H), 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.31 (t, 3H).

B. Ethyl 2 acetyl-3-(3-cyclopentyl-oxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-propanoate

A solution of (E)/(Z) ethyl 2-acetyl-3-(3cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-propenoate 2.24 mmol) in ethyl acetate (20 ml) containing palladium activated carbon (10% palladium, mq) was for 40 p.s.i. 5 hours at hydrogenated at room temperature. The mixture was filtered through celite and

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the filter cake washed with ethyl acetate (2 x 25 ml). The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo and purified by flash chromatography (SiO_2 ; ethyl acetate/ hexane (3:7)) to afford the title compounds as a pale yellow oil (585 mg).

 R_f (SiO,; ethyl acetate/hexane (3:7)) 0.45.

C. 4-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-benzyl)-5-methyl-pyrazol-3-one

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To a stirred solution of ethyl 2-acetyl-3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-propanoate (585 mg, 1.74 mmol) in absolute ethanol (10 ml) at 0°C was added hydrazine monohydrate (87 mg, 1.74 mmol) in one portion. The resulting solution was stirred at 0°C for 45 minutes and then refluxed at 80°C for 3 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo and purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂;methylene chloride/ ethanol/ammonia (4:1:0.1)) to afford the title compound as a white solid (343 mg). m.p. 186-187°C.

¹H NMR (CD₃OD; 250 MHz) δ 6.78 (m, 3H), 4.73 (m, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 2,03 (s, 3H), 1.80 (m, 6H), 1.59 (m, 2H).

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EXAMPLE 10

4-[1-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-phenyl)ethyl]-5-methyl-pyrazol-3-one

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A. N-Methoxy-N-methyl-3-(3-cyclopentyl-oxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-prop-2-enamide

To a stirred solution of diethyl (N-methoxy-N-methylcarbamoylmethyl) phosphonate (2.60 g, 10.90 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (50 ml) at -78°C was added lithium diisopropylamide (1.5M solution in cyclohexane, 7.33 ml, 11 mmol) dropwise over 3 minutes. The resulting solution was stirred at -78°C for 30 minutes, after which time 3-

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cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (1.5 g, 6.81 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (5 ml) was added in one portion. The reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature and After which time the stirring continued overnight. reaction mixture was diluted with water (25 ml) and the The aqueous residue tetrahydrofuran removed in vacuo. and extracted with was diluted with brine (25 ml) methylene chloride (3 \times 60 ml). The organic extracts were dried (Na2SO4) and evaporated in vacuo to give a yellow liquid. The liquid was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂; hexane/ethyl acetate (65:35)) to afford the title compound as a pale yellow liquid (1.986 g). R_f (SiO₂; ethyl acetate/hexane (35:65)) 0.15

B. <u>(E)-4-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-</u> buten-2-one

To a stirred solution of N-methoxy-N-methyl-3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)prop-2-enamide (1.986 g, 6.50 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (15 ml) at -78°C was added methyl lithium (1.4M solution in hexanes, 10.20 ml, 14.3 mmol) dropwise over 3 minutes. The resulting solution was stirred for 1 hour at 0°C, after which time the reaction mixture was diluted with 5% HCl in methanol (20 ml) at 0°C, and partitioned between brine (35 ml) and an equal volume of methylene chloride and diethyl ether dried organics were $(Na_{2}SO_{4})$ and The (100 ml). concentrated in vacuo to give a light yellow oil. The oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO2; ethyl acetate/hexane (35:65)) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (1.642 g).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃; 250 MHz) δ 7.43 (d, J=16.2Hz, 1H), 7.08 (m, 2H), 6.85 (d, 1H), 6.57 (d, J=16.2Hz, 1H), 4.78 (m, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.89 (m, 6H), 1.62 (m, 2H).

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C. [[4-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)2-penten-2-yl]oxy]tributylsilane

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To a stirred suspension of cuprous iodide (1.15 g, 6.045 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (10 ml) at 0°C was added methyl lithium (1.4M solution in hexanes, 8.635 ml, 12.09 mmol) dropwise over 3 minutes. The resulting solution was stirred at 0°C for 30 minutes, then cooled to -78°C and chlorotributylsilane (3.54 g, 15.07 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (5 ml) added so that the temperature of the reaction mixture did not rise above -60°C. addition was complete the reaction was stirred at -78°C (E)-4-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4minutes then for methoxyphenyl)-3-buten-2-one (787 mg, 3.02 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (5 ml) added dropwise over 3 minutes. The resulting solution was stirred at -78°C for minutes and quenched at -78°C by the addition of aqueous saturated $NaHCO_3$ (25 ml) and water (20 ml).

After warming to room temperature, the precipitate was removed by filtration and the filtrate extracted with pentane (3 x 70 ml). The organics were washed with water (20 ml), brine (20 ml) and dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated in vacuo to give an oil. The oil was purified by flash chromatography (SiO_2 ;1) hexane 2) hexane/ ethyl acetate (9:1)) to afford the title compound (contaminated with tributylsilane/chlorotributylsilane) as a colorless oil (3.33g). R_f (SiO_2 ; hexane/ethyl acetate (9:1)) 0.42

D. Methyl 2-acetyl-3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-butanoate

To a stirred solution of [[4-(3-(cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-penten-2-yl]oxy]tributylsilane prepared as detailed above, (3.38 g, containing approximately 3.0 mmol of the desired compound and 8.0 mmol of chlorotributylsilane/tributylsilane) in dry tetrahydrofuran (10 ml) at 0°C was added methyl lithium

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(1.4M in diethyl ether, 9.37 ml, 13.12 mmol) dropwise over 3 minutes. The resulting clear solution was stirred for 18 hours at room temperature, then cooled to -78°C. 3.0 mmol) Hexamethylphosphoramide (537 mg, in dry mmol) 3.3 methylcyanoformate (280 mq, tetrahydrofuran (3 ml) were added and the mixture stirred After warming to 0°C the at -78°C for 30 minutes. reaction mixture was portioned between water (40 ml) and diethyl ether (100 ml). The organics were washed with bring (30 ml), dried (Na₂SO₄) and evaporated in vacuo to purified by flash oil. The oil was an (SiO₂:hexane/ethyl (85:15)) acetate chromatography afford the title compound as a colorless oil (362 mg). $R_{\rm f}$ (SiO $_{\rm 2}$; ethyl acetate.hexane (1:4) 0.26 and 0.22 mixture of isomers.

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E. 4-[1-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-phenyl)ethyl]-5-methyl-pyrazol-3-one

To a stirred solution of methyl 2-acetyl-3-(3cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-butanoate (362 mg, 1.08 mmol) in absolute ethanol (10 ml) at 0°C was added hydrazine monohydrate (54 mg, 1.08 mmol) in one portion. The resulting solution was stirred at 0°C for 45 minutes and then refluxed at 80°C for 3 hours. Further hydrazine monohydrate (15.6 mg, 3.1 x 10^{-4} mol) was added and refluxing continued for a further 3 hours. After cooling the reaction mixture was temperature, to room and purified by flash concentrated in vacuo chromatography (SiO2; methylene chloride/ethanol/ammonia (97.5:2.5:0.25)) to afford the title compound as a white solid (76 mg).

 1 H (CDCl₃; 250 MHz) δ 6.80 (m, 3H), 4.72 (m, 1H), 3.93 (q, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.00 (s, 3H), 183 (m, 6H), 1.60 (d, 3H), 1.57 (m, 2H).

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EXAMPLE 11

5-(3-Cyclopentyloxy -4-methoxybenzal)hydantoin

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3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4solution οf 3.30 mmol) in methoxybenzal) hydantoin (1 g, ethanol/methylene chloride ((3:1) 50 ml) containing palladium on activated carbon (5% Pd, 200 mq) for hours 40 p.s.i. 6 room hydrogenated at temperature. The mixture was filtered through celite and the filter cake washed with methylene chloride (2 x 40 ml). The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo and purified by flash chromatography (SiO2; methylene chloride/ethanol/ ammonia (96:4:0.4)) to afford the title compound as a white solid (578 mg). m.p. 151-153°C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃; 250 MHz) δ 8.41 (brs, 1H), 6.74 (m, 3H),

TH NMR (CDCl₃; 250 MHz) & 8.41 (brs, 1H), 6.74 (m, 3H), 5.79 (brs, 1H), 4.73 (brs, 1H), 4.24 (dd, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.98 (AB system 2 x dd, 2H), 1.83 (m, 6H), 1.59 (m, 2H).

EXAMPLE 12

Ethyl 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methyoxybenzylamino)pyrazole-4-carboxylate

ethyl 3-aminopyrazole solution of Α 0.45 mol) and 3-cyclopentyloxy-4carboxylate (70 g, methoxybenzaldehyde (100 g, 0.45 mol) in methanol (400 mL) was treated with sodium cyanoborohydride (19.0 g, 0.30 mol) and sodium acetate (2.0 g, 0.024 mol) in a stirred reaction vessel equipped with pH stat attached to a syringe pump and a syringe filled with 3 N acetic acid in methanol. The pH stat was set to maintain pH 7. acetic acid solution was added as the reaction proceeded. After 24 hours, 169 mL of acetic acid solution had been added and no aldehyde remained in the reaction mixture by TLC (silica gel, 10% methanol/methylene chloride) and 3-

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cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-benzaldehyde (19.0 g, 0.086 mol) After 30 hours, a was added to the reaction mixture. total of 216 mL of acetic acid solution had been added and 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (16 g, 0.072 After 48 hours, mol) was added to the reaction mixture. 263 mL of acetic acid solution had been added and additional 3-cyclopentyloxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde (29 g, 0.13 mol) was added to the reaction mixture. hours, 320 mL of acetic acid solution had been consumed and the reaction mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was partitioned between water (400 mL) and ethyl acetate (400 mL) and the ethyl acetate was evaporated under reduced pressure to give 240 g of crude The crude product was purified by chromatography over 900 g of flash chromatography silica gel and eluted with methanol-methylene chloride mixtures. Elution with pure methylene chloride afforded by-product 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzyl alcohol. Elution with 1-25% methanol-methylene chloride gave 91 g (42%) of nearly pure ethyl 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)pyrazole-4-carboxylate. A portion of this ethyl 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)pyrazole carboxylate (29 g) was recrystallized from methyl t-butyl ether to give 16.8 g of pure ethyl 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4methoxybenzyl-amino)pyrazole-4-carboxylate, mp 102-104°.

EXAMPLE 13

3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-cyanopyrazole

A solution of 3-amino-4-cyanopyrazole (5.0 g, 0.16 mol), 3- cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (10.0 g, 0.045 mol) and sodium acetate (0.2 g, 2.4 mol) in methanol (70 mL) was placed in a stirred reaction flask equipped with a pH stat controlling a syringe pump and syringe filled with 3 N acetic acid in methanol. The pH

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stat was set to maintain pH 7. After 24 hours, more 3cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (7.0 g, 0.031 mol) was added and the reaction was continued. After 48 hours, more 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (4.0 q, 9.0 mmol) and soduim cyanoborohydride (0.5 q, 7.9 mmol) was added and the reaction was continued. After 72 hours, more sodium cyanoborohydride (0.5 g, 7.9 mmol) was added and after 96 hours, the reaction was stopped and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was partitioned between ethyl acetate (75mL) and water (50 mL). The ethyl acetate layer was washed with The crude product was water $(2 \times 50 \text{ mL})$ and evaporated. over 200 g of flash chromatography chromaotgraphed Elution with 2% methanol/methylene chloride silica gel. removed some impurities including 3-cyclopentyloxy-4elution with Continued methoxybenzyl alcohol. increasing chloride mixtures of methanol/methylene methanol concentration afforded 8 g (56%) of nearly pure 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxytitle compound. Pure benzylamino)-4-cyanopyrazole, mp 159-160° was obtained by recrystallization from methanol.

EXAMPLE 14

3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-benzylamino)-4-methylpyrazole

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A stirred solution of ethyl 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino-pyrazole-4-carboxylate) (from EXAMPLE 12) (5.4 g, 0.015 mol) in THF (50 mL) at 0° was treated with sodium bis (2-methoxyethoxy)aluminum hydride (0.03 mole), 9 mL of 3.4 M solution in toluene. After 3 hours, another 9 mL portion of the sodium bis (2-methoxyethoxy)aluminum hydride solution (0.03 mol) was added. The reaction was stirred overnight at room temperature and methanol (20 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was diluted with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The

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ethyl acetate extracts were washed with water and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue crystallized upon trituration with hexanes. Pure title compound (1.7 g, 38%), mp 76-77°, was obtained after two crystallizations from methyl t-butylether.

EXAMPLE 15

3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-benzylamino)-4-methoxymethylpyrazole

3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4ofsolution methoxybenzylamino)-4-hydroxymethylpyrazole (1.0 g, 3.15 mmol) and p-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (0.2 g, 1.0 mmol) in methanol (100 mL) was kept at room temperature The reaction mixture was neutralized with 1 for 10 min. N aqueous sodium hydroxide and evaporated under reduced The residue temperature. at room pressure partitioned between water (50 mL) and ethyl acetate (50 The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (10 mL). The combined ethyl acetate layers were washed with water and evaporated The residue was taken up in a under reduced pressure. small volume of methylene chloride and applied to a 4 mm silica gel disk on a Chromatotron. Elution with 525 mL of methylene chloride and 275 mL of 1% methanol/methylene chloride removed some impure material. Continued elution with 75 mL of 1% methanol/methylene chloride afforded 380 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4mq (36%) of pure methoxybenzylamino)-4-methyoxymethylpurazole, 115°.

EXAMPLE 16

ethyl 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy phenyl-1-ethen-2-yl)pyrazole-4-carboxylate

A four-step process as set forth below was used to prepare the title compound.

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A: Ethyl 5-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3oxo-5-hydroxypentanoate

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Sodium hydride (6.0 g of 60% sodium hydride in mineral oil, 0.15 mol) was placed in a 3-neck flask equiped with a mechanical stirrer under nitrogen and washed twice with hexanes. THF (200 mL) was added and the mixture was cooled in an ice bath. Ethyl acetoacetate (17.6 g, 0.135 mol) was added dropwise and the mixture stirred for '10 minutes after the Butyllithium (0.35 mol, 84 mL of 1.6 M solution in hexanes) was added dropwise to give an orange solution. 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde solution of (29.6 g, 0.135 mol) in THF (100 mL) was added dropwise. After 10 minutes, the cold solution was treated with concentrated hydrochloric acid (26 mL, 0.29 mol), water (65 mL) and ether (500 mL). The ether layer was separated and washed with saturated brine $(3 \times 300 \text{ mL})$. The ether was evaporated to give 46.5 g of crude title The crude product was dissolved in a small amount of 30% methylene chloride/hexanes and purified by chromatography over 400 g of flash chromatography silica Elution with methylene chloride/hexane mixtures removed 9 g of starting aldehyde. Elution with 1% methanol/methylene chloride afforded the ethyl 5-(3cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxo-5-hydroxypentanoate (25.0 g, 53%) as an oil.

B. Ethyl 5-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3oxo-4-pentenoate

To a solution of p-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (0.13 g, 0.68 mmol) warmed on the steam bath was added ethyl 5-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy)-3-oxo-5-hydroxypentanoate (13.5 g, 0.039 mol). After 5 minutes, the solution was cooled and purified by chromatography over flash chromatography silica gel (130 g). Elution

with methylene chloride/hexane mixtures gave 3.5 g (27%) of pure ethyl 5-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxo-4-pentenoate.

C. Ethyl 5-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3oxo-2-ethyoxymethylene-4-pentenoate

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5-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4ethyl solution of Α methoxyphenyl) 3-oxo-4-pentenoate (2.2 g, 6.8 mmol) and diethoxymethyl acetate (1.1 g, 6.8 mmol) was heated at The reaction mixture was taken up in 160° for 1 hour. methylene chloride and washed with saturated sodium The methylene chloride solution. bicarbonate evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash chromatography over 15 g of flash Elution with methylene chromatography silica gel. chloride/hexane mixtures removed some starting material Elution with pure methylene chloride and by-products. afforded 1.1 g (42%) of ethyl 5-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4methoxyphenyl)-3-oxo-2-ethoxymethylene-4-pentenoate.

D. Ethyl 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl-ethyl-2-yl)pyrazole-4-carboxylate

5-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4ethyl of solution methoxyphenyl)-3-oxo-2-ethoxymethylene-4-pentenoate (1.1 2.6 mmol) in ethanol (10 mL) was treated with g, anhydrous hydrazine (0.1 g, 3.1 mmol). After standing overnight, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash chromatography over 10 g of flash chromatography silica gel. Elution with ethyl 3 - (3 chloride afforded the methylene cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl-ethyl-2-

yl)pyrazole-4-carboxylate (0.5 g, 54%). Pure title compound mp 97-100° was obtained by crystallization from ether/hexanes.

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EXAMPLE 17

3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-

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phenyl-1-ethen-2-yl) pyrazole-4-methanol

3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4solution of ethyl methoxyphenyl-1-ethen-2-yl)pyrazole-4-carboxylate (from Example 16), (0.5 g, 1.4 mmol) in THF (50 mL) was stirred overnight with lithium aluminum hydride (0.16 g, reaction mixture was then treated The successively with water, (0.5 mL), 15% aqueous sodium hydroxide (0.5 mL) and water (1.5 mL). The inorganic material was filtered and washed with methylene chloride. The ether and methylene chloride solutions were combined and washed with water and evaporated. The crude product was dissolved in methylene chloride and purified by flash chromatography over 4.5 g of flash chromatography silica Elution with methylene chloride/methanol mixtures afforded 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl-1-ethen-2-(0.30 68%). vl)pyrazole-4-carbinol g, compound, mp 121-123°, was obtained by crystallization from toluene.

EXAMPLE 18

ethyl 3-[2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl]pyrazole-4-carboxylate

3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4solution of ethyl methoxyphenyl-1-ethylene-2-yl)pyrazole-4-carboxylate (Example 16), (1.1 g, 3.1 mmol) in ethyl acetate (50 mL) was hydrogenated at 20 psi over 0.5 g of 10% Pd on carbon After 24 hours, the catalyst as filtered and the solution was hydrogenated again with 0.5 g of fresh After hydrogen uptake 10% Pd on carbon catalyst. ceased, the catalyst was filtered and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography over 20 g of flash Elution with methylene chromatography silica gel. chloride and 0.25% ethanol/methylene chloride removed

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some impurities. Elution with 2% ethanol/methylene chloride afforded ethyl 3-[2-(3-cyclopentyl-oxy-4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl]pryazole-4-carboxylate (0.70 g, 63%) Pure title compound, mp 80-82° was obtained by crystallization from ether/hexanes.

EXAMPLE 19

3-[2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-phenyl)ethyl]pyrazole-4-methanol

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3-[2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4solution of ethyl methoxyphenyl) ethyl]pyrazole-4-carboxylate (from Example 1.1 mmol) was stirred overnight with (0.40 q, lithium aluminum hydride (0.18 g, 4.7 mmol). THF (25 mL) was added and stirring was continued for 1 hour. reaction mixture was then treated successively with water (0.2 mL), 15% aqueous sodium hydroxide (0.2 mL) and water (0.6 mL). The inorganic material was filtered and washed and methylene chloride. The organic solutions were combined and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography over 3.5 g of flash chromatography silica gel. Elution with methylene chloride and 1% methanol/methylene chloride with 28 impurities. Elution removed some methanol/methylene chloride gave 0.21 g (60%) of 3-[2-(3cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl]pyrazole carbinol. compound, 88-91°, was obtained title сm crystallization from ether/hexanes.

Example 20

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2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4trifluoromethyl-imidazole

1,1-Dibromo-3,3,3-trifluoroacetone (2.95 g, 1.64 ml, 10.9 mmol) was added to a solution of NaOAc (1.52 g, 18 mmol) in water (8 ml). The solution was heated at 80°C for 45 min. To the cooled solution at 0°C was added 3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (2 g, 9.07 mmol) and

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methanol (34 ml), followed by concentrated $\mathrm{NH_4OH}$ (11 ml). A homogeneous reaction mixture was obtained, which was stirred overnight at room temperature. Volatiles were removed in vacuo and flash chromatography (SiO_2 , $\mathrm{EtOAc:hexane}$ (3:7)) produced 2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-trifluoromethyl imidazole (1.728 g, 58%) as a white solid, mp 157-159°C.

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 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (250MHz;CDCl₃) 1.45-1.9 (8H,m,4 x CH₂), 3.85 (3H,s,OMe), 4.7 (1H,m,CH), 6.8 (1H,d,ArH), 7.3 (1H,d,ArH), 7.4 (2H,m,ArH), 10.3 (1H,s,NH)

Example 21

2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4carboxylic acid

2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-trifluoromethyl imidazole (688 mg, 2.11 mmol) and 1N NaOH (25 ml) were heated at 90°C for 2 h. Afterwhich time the reaction was made acidic by addition of c.HCl, the precipitate was collected by filtration and the filter was washed with ethanol (5 ml) and ether (5 x 20 ml), dried *in vacuo*, to afford 2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid (356 mg, 56%) as a light tan solid, mp 206-208°C.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (250MHz; d_4 , MeOH) 1.7 (2H, m, CH₂), 1.8-2.0 (6H, m, 3 x CH₂), 3.9 (3H, s, OMe), 4.9 (1H, m, CH), 7.1 (1H, d, ArH), 7.6 (2H, m, ArH), 8.0 (1H, s, ArH).

Example 22 2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4formamide

A: 2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-cyanoimidazole

A mixture of 2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-trifluoromethyl-imidazole (1.04 g, 3.18 mmol) and 5% aqueous ammonium hydroxide (300 ml) was heated to reflux for 24 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled and carefully neutralised with acetic acid. The mixture was

extracted with methylene chloride $(3 \times 150 \text{ ml})$ and the volatiles removed in vacuo to afford the crude product. Flash chromatography $(SiO_2; EtOAc:hexane\ (2:3))$ produced the 2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-cyanoimidazole $(320 \text{ mg},\ 35\%)$ as a pale yellow solid.

B: <u>2-(3-Hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-imidazole-4-</u> formamide

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A mixture of the 2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-cyanoimidazole (320 mg, 1.18 mmol) and c.HCl (25 ml) was heated to 50°C overnight. The reaction was then cooled to 0°C, neutralised with c.NH₄OH and extracted with ethyl acetate (5 x 80 ml), the combined organics were dried over Na₂SO₄ and the volatiles removed *in vacuo*. Flash chromatography (SiO₂;CH₂Cl₂ to CH₂Cl₂:EtOH (7:3) (1% NH₃)) afforded 2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4-formamide (110 mg, 40%) as a white solid.

C: 2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4-formamide

A mixture of 2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4formamide (110 mg, 0.47 mmol), cyclopentyl bromide (60 μ l, 0.56 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (162 mg, 1.2 mmol) in DMF (10 ml) were heated at 70°C overnight. A further quantity of cyclopentyl bromide (60 μ l, 0.56 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (162 mg, 1.2 mmol) were added and the reaction mixture was cooled room temperature, diluted with water (50 ml), extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 100 ml). The combined organics were washed with brine (30 ml) dried over Na₂SO₄ and the volatiles removed in vacuo. Flash chromatography afforded CH2Cl2:EtOH (9:1)(1왕 $NH_3)$) cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4-formamide (43 mg,) as a white solid, mp d.>195°C.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (250MHz;d₄,MeOH) 1.65 (2H,m,CH₂), 1.7-2.0 (6H,m,3 x CH₂), 3.9 (3H,s,OMe), 7.0 (1H,d,ArH), 7.5 (2H,m,ArH), 7.7 (1H,s,ArH).

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Example 23

2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4carboxylic acid-2,-6-dimethylphenyl amide

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A mixture of 2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)imidazole-4-carboxylic acid (400 mg, 1.32 mmol) and SOCl2 (10 ml) containing DMF (1 drop) was heated to reflux for 2 hours. The volatiles were removed in vacuo and to the residue was added toluene (25 ml) and the solvent evaporated. This procedure was repeated

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to remove dissolved gaseous by-products. The residue was dissolved in THF (10 ml) and added dropwise at 0°C over the solution of salt minutes, to a in THF (30 ml)dimethylaniline (510 μ l, 4.14 mmol) (formed by adding a solution of the aniline in THF (15 ml) to a suspension of NaH (167 mg, 4.14 mmol) is THF (15 ml) at room temperature). The resultant solution was stirred at room temperature for 48 hours, diluted with 1N (20 ml) and the mixture extracted with methylene chloride (2 x 50 ml). The combined organics were dried over Na₂SO₄ and the volatiles removed in vacuo. Flash chromatography (SiO,; CH,Cl,:EtOH (97:3)) afforded 2-(3cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4-carboxylic

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acid-2,6-dimethylphenyl amide (80 mg, 15%) as a pale

vellow solid, mp 118-122°C.

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 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (250MHz; CDCl₃) 1.6 (2H, m, CH₂), 1.7-2.0 (6H, m, 3 x CH₂), 2.3 $(6H,s,2 \times Me)$, 3.9 (3H,s,OMe), 5.0 (1H,m,CH), 6.8 (1H,d,ArH), 7.1 (2H,d,ArH), 7.8-8.0 (3H,m,ArH), (1H,6s,NH), 10.3 (1H,6s,NH).

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Example 24

2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4methanol

2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4methylcarboxylate

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2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4of solution To а methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid (0.5 g, 1.65 mmol) in dry methanol (2 ml) at 0°C was added acetyl chloride (0.8 ml, 11.2 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 days and then the volatiles were removed in vacuo. The oily residue was dissolved in water (20 ml), basified with 1N NaOH and extracted with methylene chloride (3 \times 50 ml). combined organics were dried over Na2SO4 and the volatiles removed in vacuo. Flash chromatography (SiO2; EtOAc: Hexane afforded 2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-(4:1)imidazole-4-methyl carboxylate (225 mg, 43%), as a white solid, mp 165-168°C.

B: <u>2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4-</u>
methanol

2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4solution of To а methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4-methylcarboxylate (225 0.71 mmol) in dry THF (15 ml) was added, with stirring at -40°C, a solution of diisobutylaluminium hydride (1M in THF, 6.0 ml, 60 mmol). After 1.5 hours the reaction mixture was poured onto saturated NH₄Cl (50 ml) extracted with ethyl acetate (3 \times 100 ml). The combined organics were washed with saturated NH4Cl (50 ml), dried over Na2SO4 and the volatiles removed in vacuo. Flash chromatography (SiO₂; CH₂Cl₂,EtOH (95:5) (1% NH₃)) afforded 2(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4-methanol (88 mg, 45%) as a white solid, mp 188-190°C.

 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (250MHz;CDCl₃) 1.5 (2H,m,CH₂), 1.6-1.9 (6H,m,3 x CH₂), 3.7 (3H,s,OMe), 4.5 (2H,s,CH₂O), 4.7 (1H,,m,CH), 6.7 (1H,d,ArH), 6.8 (1H,s,ArH), 7.3 (1H,dd,ArH), 7.4 (1H,d,ArH).

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Example 25

2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4carboxylic acid, N-(2-hydroxyethyl) amide

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To solution of 2-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4a methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid (500 mg, 1.65 in DMF (15 ml) at room temperature was added carbonyldiimidazole (295 mg, 1.8 mmol). The resultant solution was stirred for 30 minutes and then ethanolamine (180 μ l, 1.8 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture stirred at room temperature overnight. Water (75 ml) was added and the mixture extracted with ethyl acetate (2 \times 75 ml). The combined organics were washed with brine (40 ml), dried over Na₂SO₄ and the volatiles removed in vacuo. Flash chromatography (SiO₂; CH₂Cl₂:EtOH (95:5) (1% NH₃)) afforded 2-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid, N-(2-hydroxyethyl) amide (247 mg, 43%) as a white solid, mp 206-208°C. $\delta_{\rm H}$ (250MHz; $d_{\rm G}$, DMSO) 1.6 (2H, m, CH₂), 1.65 (4H, m, CH₂), 3.3 3.5 (2H, m, NCH₂), (1H,s,NH), (2H, m, CH₂), 3.3 (2H, m, OCH,), 3.8 (3H, s, OMe), 4.8 (1H, m, CH), 4.8 (1H, s, OH), 7.0 (1H,d,ArH), 7.5 (1H,d,ArH), 7.7 (1H,s,ArH), 7.85

Example 26

4-(1-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylethyl)-5-methyl-pyrazol-3-one

(1H,t,ArH), 12.8 (1H,6s,NH).

A: Ethyl-3(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-acetyl-prop-2-enoate

A mixture of 3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (7 g, 31.8 mmol), ethyl acetoacetate (4.13 g, 31.8 mmol), piperidine (275 mg, 3.18 mmol) and glacial acetic acid (100 mg) in toluene (350 ml) was heated at reflux with a Dean-Stark trap for 2 days, during which time, at regular intervals, further additions of piperidine (4 x 275 mg) and glacial acetic acid (4 x 100 mg) were made. The

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reaction mixture was then diluted with water and extracted with methylene chloride (3 x 150 ml), dried over Na₂SO₄ and the volatiles removed *in vacuo*. Flash chromatography (SiO₂; EtOAc:hexane (1:9)) afforded ethyl-3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-acetyl-prop-2-enoate (2 g, 19%) as a yellow oil.

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B: <u>Ethyl-3-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-acetyl-4-phenyl-butanoate</u>

Cuprous iodide (1.15 g, 6.05 mmol) in dry THF (10 ml) was treated at 0°C with benzylmagnesium bromide (2 M in THF, 6.05 ml, 12.1 mmol) over a 3 minute period. The cuprate was stirred at 0°C for 30 minutes and then cooled to -78°C and then TMSCl (3.28 g, 30.2 mmol) in THF (5 ml) was added dropwise keeping the reaction temperature below -60°C. The mixture was stirred at below -60°C for a further 10 minutes and then ethyl-3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4methoxyphenyl)-2-acetyl-prop-2-enoate (1 g, 3.01 mmol) in THF (5 ml) was added dropwise over 3 minutes. The mixture was stirred at below -60°C for 45 minutes and then saturated NH₄Cl (30 ml) and water (20 ml) were added. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature, resultant precipitate was removed by filtration and the the residue was dissolved filtrate evaporated, methylene chloride (200 ml), washed with water (30 ml), in HCl (50 ml) and water (30 ml), dried over Na₂SO₄ and the volatiles removed in vacuo. Flash chromatography ethy1-3-(3afforded (1:9))EtOAc:hexane (SiO,; cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-acetyl-4-phenylbutanoate (1.19 g), 92%) as a yellow oil.

C: 4-(1-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl))-2-phenylethyl)-5-methyl-pyrazol-3-one

Hydrazine monohydrate (207 mg, 4.2 mmol) was added to a solution of 3-ethyl-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-acetyl-4-phenyl-butanoate (1.186 g, 2.8

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mmol) in methanol at 0°C. The resultant mixture was allowed to reach room temperature over 45 minutes and then heated to reflux overnight. The volatiles were flash chromatography (SiO₂; removed invacuo and $NH_3)$) afforded 4-(1-(3-(1왕 (95:5)CH,Cl,:EtOH cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-ethyl)-5-methylpyrazol-3-one (460 mg, 42%) as a pale yellow solid, mp 88-90°C.

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 $\delta_{\rm H}$ (250MHz;CDCl₃) 1.5 (2H,m,CH₂), 1.6-1.9 (6H,m,3 x CH₂), 1.9 (3H,s,Me), 3.2-3.5 (2H,m,ArCH₂), 3.8 (3H,s,OMe), 3.85 (1H,m,ArCH), 4.7 (1H,m,CH), 6.7 (1H,d,ArH), 6.85 (1H,dd,ArH), 7.0 (1H,d,ArH), 7.2 (5H,m,ArH).

EXAMPLE 27

Protocols for PDE IV, PDE III, and PDE V inhibition activity are set forth below:

Type III Phosphodiesterase Enzyme Isolation Protocol

The Type III PDE is isolated from human platelets using a procedure similar to that previously described by Weishaar, R.E.; Burrows, S.D.; Kobylarg, D.C., Quade, N.M.; Evans, D.B., Biochem. Pharmacol., 35:787, 1986. Briefly, 1-2 units of platelets are suspended in an equal volume of buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, containing 2 mM magnesium acetate, 1 mM dithiothreitol, and 5 mM Na₂ The proteinase inhibitor phenylmethyl-sulfonyl fluoride (PMSF) is also included in this buffer at a The suspension is concentration of 200 μ M. using polytron and the homogenate homogenized a centrifuged at 100,000 x g for 60 minutes. This and all subsequent procedures are performed at 0-4°C. supernatant is then filtered through four layers of gauze and applied to a DEAE-Trisacryl M column, previously equilibrated with buffer B (20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, containing 1 mM magnesium acetate, 1 mM dithiothreitol

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After application of the sample, the and 200 μ M PMSF). column is washed with several bed volumes of buffer B, after which the different forms of PDE are eluted from the column using two successive linear NaCl gradients (0.05-0.15 M, 300 ml total; 0.15-0.40 M, 200 ml total). Five ml fractions are collected and assayed for cyclic AMP and cyclic GMP PDE activity. Fractions containing III activity are pooled and dialyzed overnight The dialyzed PDE III is then against 4 L of buffer B. concentrated to 10% of the original volume, diluted to 50% with ethylene glycol monoethyl ether and stored at -PDE III can typically be retained for up to four weeks with little or no loss of activity.

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Measuring Type III PDE Activity

Enzyme activity is assessed by measuring the hydrolysis of $[^3H]$ -cyclic AMP, as described by Thompson, W.J., Teraski, W.L., Epstein, P.N., Strada, S.J.: Adv. Cyclic Nucleotide Res. 10:69, 1979. The cyclic AMP concentration used in this assay is 0.2 μM , which approximates to the K_m value. Protein concentration is adjusted to ensure that no more than 15% of the available substrate is hydrolyzed during the incubation period.

All test compounds are dissolved in dimethyl sulfoxide (final concentration of 2.5%). This concentration of dimethyl sulfoxide inhibits enzyme activity by approximately 10%.

Type IV Phosphodiesterase Enzyme Isolation Protocol

The Type IV PDE is isolated from bovine tracheal smooth muscle using a procedure similar to that previously described by Silver, P.J., Hamel, L.T., Perrone, M.H. Bentley, R.G. Bushover, C.R., Evans, D.B.: Eur. J. Pharmacol. 150:85,1988.(1). Briefly, smooth muscle from bovine trachea is minced and homogenized

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using a polytron in 10 volumes of an extraction buffer containing 10 mM Tris-acetate (pH 7.5), 2 mM magnesium chloride, 1 mM dithiothreitol and 2,000 units/ml of This and all subsequent procedures are aprotinin. performed at 0-4°C. The homogenate is sonicated and then centrifuged at 48,000 x g for 30 minutes. The resulting supernatant is applied to a DEAE Trisacryl M column acetate and previously equilibrated with sodium After applications of the sample, the dithiothreitol. column is washed with sodium acetate/dithiothreitol, after which the different forms of PDE are eluted from linear Tris-HCl/NaCl gradient. using a Fractions containing Type IV PDE are collected, dialyzed and concentrated to 14% of the original volume. concentrated fractions are diluted to 50% with ethylene glycol and stored at -20°C.

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Measuring Type IV PDE Activity

by measuring is assessed activity Enzyme hydrolysis of [3H]-cyclic AMP, as described by Thompson, W.J., Teraski, W.L., Epstein, P.N., Strada, S.J.: Adv. Cyclic Nucleotide Res. 10:69, 1979. The cyclic AMP concentration used in this assay is 0.2 $\mu \mathsf{M}$, approximates to the K_m value. Protein concentration is adjusted to ensure that no more than 15% of the available substrate is hydrolyzed during the incubation period.

compounds are dissolved in dimethyl All test of 2.5%). concentration sulfoxide (final inhibits enzyme concentration dimethyl sulfoxide of activity by approximately 10%.

Type V Phosphodiesterase Enzyme Isolation Protocol

<u>Enzyme Isolation Procedure</u>: The Type V PDE is isolated using a procedure similar to that previously described by Weishaar et al. (Weishaar, R.E., Kobylarz-

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Singer, D.C., Keiser, J., Haleen, S.J., Major, T.C., Rapundalo, S., Peterson, J.T., Panek, R.: Hypertension Briefly, 1-2 units of platelets are 15:528, 1990). suspended in an equal volume of buffer A (20 mM Tris-HCl, magnesium acetate, containing 2 mM Нq 7.5, dithiothreitol, and 5 mM Na₂EDTA) using a polytron. proteinase inhibitor phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF) are also included in this buffer at a final concentration This and all subsequent procedures are performed at 0-4°C. The homogenate is then centrifuges The supernatant is then at 100,000 xg for 60 minutes. removed and filtered through four layers of gauze and applied to a DEAE-Trisacryl M column. The column is washed with several bed volumes of buffer B (20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, containing 2 mM magnesium acetate, 1 mM diothiothreitol, and 200 uM PMSF) and eluted by two successive linear NaCl gradients (0.05-0.15 M, 300 ml total; 0.15-0.40 M, 200 ml total). Five ml fractions are collected and assayed for cyclic AMP and cyclic GMP PDE activity. Fractions that contain PDE V are pooled and dialyzed overnight against 4 L of buffer C (20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, containing 2 mM magnesium acetate and proteinase inhibitors). The dialyzed PDE V concentrated to 10% of the original volume, diluted to 50% with ethylene glycol monoethyl ether and stored at -PDE V can typically be retained for up to four weeks with little or no loss of activity.

Measuring Type V PDE Activity: Enzyme activity are assessed by measuring the hydrolysis of [3 H]-cyclic GMP, as described by Thompson et al. (Thompson, W.J., Teraski, W.L., Epstein, P.N., Strada, S.J.: Adv. Cyclic Nucleotide Res. 10:69, 1979). The cyclic GMP concentration used in this assay is 0.2 uM, which approximates to the K_m value. Protein concentration is adjusted to ensure that no more

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than 15% of the available substrate is hydrolyzed during the incubation period.

All test compounds are dissolved in dimethyl sulfoxide (final concentration of 2.5%). This concentration of dimethyl sulfoxide inhibits enzyme activity by approximately 10%. The reference Type V PDE inhibitor zaprinast is evaluated with each assay.

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Rolipram

The compounds are tested over concentration range: 0.1, 1, 10, 100 uM (n=1), and I_{50} determinations are made using 5 appropriate concentrations (n=2).

EXAMPLE 28

Following the above procedures, the PDE III, PDE IV, PDE V inhibition for the compound of Example 1, 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-hydroxymethyl-pyrazole, and rolipram (PDE III, PDE IV) are tested and compared. The results are shown in Tables 1-3 below:

TABLE 1 - PDE III ACTIVITY

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				% Inhil	<u>oition</u>	
20	Compound	Molecular Weight	1.0	<u>μΜ 10 μ</u>	<u>ım 100</u>	<u>μΜ</u>
	Ex. 1 precip-	317.4	8%	22%	538	í
25	itate Rolipram 35%			7%	188	f
		TABL	E 2 - PDE	IV ACTIVI	<u>TY</u>	
				% Inhil	oition	
30		Molecular				
	<u>Example</u>	Mol. Wt.	$0.001 \mu M$	<u>0.003. μ</u> Ι	$ \underline{M} 0.01 \mu \underline{M} $	<u>0.03</u>
	μ <u>Μ</u> <u>0.1μ</u> 1 Ex. 1 70%	<u>M</u> 317.4	10%	26%	42%	58%
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	<u>Example</u>	1.0	<u>μΜ</u> <u>10 μΙ</u>	<u>M</u>		

36%

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	TABLE	3 -	- PDE	V	ACTIV	ITY	
	Molecular			Pl	DE V -	· %	Inhibition
Compound	<u>Weight</u>		0.1	<u>μΜ</u>	1_	μ M	<u>10 μΜ</u>
<u>100 μM</u> Example 1 30#	317.40		0		0		4

The concentration of Example 1 which yielded 50% inhibition of PDE IV (IC₅₀) was 0.016 μM .

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The concentration of rolipram which yielded 50% inhibition of PDE IV (IC50) in this same assay was 4.5 $\mu \rm M$.

EXAMPLE 29

In this Example, the compounds prepared in the above examples were prepared as set forth above and tested for Type III and Type IV PDE Activity in similar fashion as set forth with regard to the procedures set forth in Example 20. The results are set forth in Table 4 below:

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TABLE 4 - ACTIVITIES

5	EXAMPLE	PDE IV IC ₅₀ (µM)	PDE III IC ₅₀ (µM)
3	1	0.016	>100
	2	53	>300
	3	109	>300
10	4	4.4	>300
	5	15	>100
	6	20% @ 100 μ M	>100
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	19% @ 100μM·	>100
	8	25	46
15		13	>100
	10	7.8	>300
	11	78	>300
	12	3.593	85.317
	13	22.80	>100
20	14	7.30	>300
	15	0.17	>300
	16	1.47	7.320
	17	8.00	>100
	18	12.50	>100
25	19	17.508	>300
	20	14.68	>100
	21	7.44	>250
	22	3.9	76
	23	7.28	>200
30	24	17.54	>300
	25	4.48	>250
	26	2.80	>100

As can be seen from the foregoing, the inventive compounds provide high levels of PDE-IV inhibition while at the same time relatively low levels of PDE-III inhibition.

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While the invention has been illustrated with respect to the production and use of a particular compound, it is apparent that variations and modifications of the invention can be made without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of the formula:

$$R_2$$
 X_2
 X_1
 X_1
 X_1
 X_1

wherein:

 X_1 and X_2 may be the same or different and each is O or S;

 R_1 and R_2 may be the same or different and each are saturated or unsaturated straight-chain or branched alkyl groups containing from 1 to 12 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl and cycloalkyl-alkyl groups containing from 3 to 10 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl moiety; or one of R_1 and R_2 are hydrogen and the other represents a hydrocarbon group as set forth above;

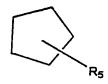
 R_3 is hydrogen, halogen, or a saturated or unsaturated straight-chain or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a cycloalkyl and cycloalkyl-alkyl groups containing from 3 to 7 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl moiety;

Z is a linkage selected from a bond, -NH-, $-CH_2O-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH_2NH-$, $-CH_2N$ (Me), $NHCH_2-$, $-CH_2CONH-$, $-NHCH_2CO-$, $-CH_2CO-$, $-COCH_2-$, $-CH_2COCH_2-$, -CH (CH₃)-, -CH=, and -HC=CH-, wherein the carbon and/or nitrogen atoms are unsubstituted or substituted with a lower alkyl, halogen, hydroxy or alkoxy group;

 R_4 is a 5-membered heterocyclic group selected from the group consisting of a pyrazole, an imidazole, an oxazole, an oxadiazole, thiadiazole, thiazoyl, and a triazole, which is unsubstituted or substituted with one

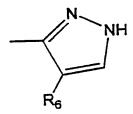
or more halogen atoms, C1-4 alkyl groups, hydroxyl groups, cyano groups, nitro groups, carboxyl groups, C1-4 alkyl esters, alkoxy groups, alkoxycarbonyl, amido, boxamido, substituted or unsubstituted amino groups, cycloalkyl and cycloalkyl-alkyl groups containing from 3 to 10 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl moiety, aryl or aralkyl groups preferably containing from about 6 to about 10 carbon atoms, or heterocyclic groups containing nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur in the ring; said alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkyl-alkyl, aryl, and aryl-alkyl groups being unsubstituted or substituted by halogen atoms, hydroxyl groups, cyano groups, carboxyl groups, C1-4 alkoxy groups, alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido or substituted or unsubstituted amino groups, or one or more lower alkyl groups having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, with the proviso that when R4 is other than 4-imidazolinone or 4pyrolidinone.

- 2. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_1 is alkyl of 1-12 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl of 3-6 carbon atoms, which cycloalkyl may be substituted by one or more alkyl groups or by one or more halogens, R_2 is hydrogen, or alkyl of 1-12 carbon atoms, and wherein R_3 is hydrogen, lower alkyl or halogen.
- 3. The compound of claim 2 wherein R_2 is lower alkyl.
- 4. The compound of claim 3 wherein R_1 is cycloalkyl optionally substituted by one or more halogens.
- 5. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_2 is methyl or ethyl and wherein R_1 is cyclopentyl optionally substituted by R_5 as shown in the following structural formula:



wherein R_{s} is hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated straight-chain lower alkyl group containing from about 1 to about 6 carbon atoms, unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halogen atoms, hydroxyl groups, cyano groups, nitro groups, carboxyl groups, alkoxy groups, alkoxycarbonyl, carboxamido or substituted or unsubstituted amino groups.

- 6. The compound of claim 2 wherein Z is a linkage selected from $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH_2NH-$, CH_2N (Me), $-NHCH_2-$, $-CH_2CONH-$, and $-NHCH_2CO-$.
- 7. The compound of claim 2, wherein X_1 and X_2 are 0.
- 8. The compound of claim 6 wherein R_4 is an unsubstituted or substituted pyrazole.
- 9. The compound of claim 6 wherein R_4 is a substituted or unsubstituted imidazole group.
- 10. The compound of claim 6 wherein R_4 is a substituted or unsubstituted triazole group.
- 11. The compound of claim 6 wherein R_4 is a substituted pyrazole having the following structure:



wherein R_{ϵ} is a lower alkyl having from about 1 to about 3 carbon atoms.

12. The compound of claim 6 wherein Z is -CH₂NH-.

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13. The compound of claim 6 wherein Z is $-CH_2NH-$ and R_4 is a substituted pyrazole having the following structure:

wherein R_{ϵ} is a lower alkyl having from about 1 to about 3 carbon atoms.

14. The compound of claim 1, selected from the group consisting of 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-hydroxymethyl pyrazole; and 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-methoxymethylpyrazole.

15. A method of producing the compound of claim 1 which comprises condensing a 3-cyclopentyloxy-benzaldehyde of the formula: O

with a 3-amino-4-pyrazole carboxylic acid of the formula:

in the presence of sodium cyanoborohydride to produce the corresponding 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-benzylamino)-4- pyrazolecarboxylic acid, and treating the same with excess boraine-tetrahydrofurane complex to form the compound of claim 1, wherein R, R_1 and R_2 have the same definitions as in claim 1.

16. A compound of the formula:

$$R_2$$
 X_2
 X_1
 X_1
 X_1
 X_1
 X_1
 X_1

wherein:

 X_1 and X_2 may be the same or different and each is O or S:

 $R_{\rm i}$ is alkyl of 1-12 carbon atoms or cycloalkyl of 3-6 carbon atoms, which cycloalkyl may be substituted by one or more alkyl groups or by one or more halogens;

R₂ is hydrogen or alkyl of 1-12 carbon atoms;

R, is hydrogen, lower alkyl or halogen;

Z is a linkage selected from -NH-, -CH₂-, -CH₂CH₂-, -CH₂NH-, NHCH₂-, CH₂N(Me), -CH₂CONH-, -NHCH₂CO-, -CH₂CO-, -COCH₂-, -CH₂COCH₂-, -CH(CH₃)-, -CH=, and -HC=CH-; and R₇ is C or CH₂C.

- 17. The compound of claim 16, wherein $\mathbf{X_1}$ and $\mathbf{X_2}$ are O.
- 18. The compound according to claim 17, wherein R_1 is methyl or ethyl and wherein R_2 is cyclopentyl.
 - 19. The compound of claim 16, wherein Z is -CH2NH-.
- 20. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound having the chemical structure set forth in claim 1.

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- 21. A method of effecting selective PDE IV inhibition in a patient requiring the same, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound of claim 1.
- 22. The method of claim 21, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzy-lamino)-4-hydroxymethyl pyrazole and 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-methoxymethylpyrazole.
- 23. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound having the chemical structure set forth in claim 1.
- 24. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, selected from the group consisting of 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzy-lamino)-4-hydroxymethyl pyrazole and 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-methoxymethylpyrazole.
- 25. A method of treating a mammal suffering from a disease state selected from the group consisting of asthma, allergies, inflammation, depression, dementia, atopic diseases, rhinitis and disease states associated with abnormally high physiological levels of cytokine, comprising administering an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 or claim 16.
- 26. The method of claim 25, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-benzylamino)-4-hydroxymethyl pyrazole and 3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxybenzylamino)-4-methoxymethylpyrazole.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US95/08981

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(6) :C07D 231/10, 233/54, 249/04, 249/08; A61K 31/41, 31/415 US CL :Please See Extra Sheet. According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC					
B. FIELDS SEARCHED					
Minimum documentation searche	ed (classification system followed	by classification symbols)	·		
U.S. : 548/255, 264.8, 318.	5, 326.5, 370.4, 371.4, 372.5;	514/359, 383, 389, 398, 400, 404, 406,	, 407		
Documentation searched other tha	in minimum documentation to the	extent that such documents are included	in the fields searched		
	uring the international search (nathernational search (nathernationa	me of data base and, where practicable, PYRAZOLE)	, search terms used)		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSID	ERED TO BE RELEVANT		***************************************		
Category* Citation of docu	ment, with indication, where ap	propriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
1 1	l3 643 (WARNER-LA 989, see page 2.	MBERT COMPANY) 29	1-3, 7, 20, 23, 25		
l ' ' '	3,216 (APPLETON ET I, lines 22-63.	AL.) 07 February 1989,	1-3, 6-8, 11, 20, 23, 25		
T			4, 5		
	US, A, 4,868,183 (KANAI ET AL.) 19 September 1989, see column 1, lines 5-39.				
1 '	EP, A, 0 511 865 (AMERICAN HOME PRODUCTS COMPANY) 04 November 1992, see pages 3-4.				
·					
X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.					
Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or principle or theory underlying the invention "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered "T" later document published after the international filing date or principle and not in conflict with the application but cited to understan principle or theory underlying the invention					
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"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is when the document is		considered novel or cannot be conside when the document is taken alone			
	al disclosure, use, exhibition or other	"Y" document of particular relevance; the considered to involve an inventive combined with one or more other such being obvious to a person skilled in the	step when the document is h documents, such combination		
means being obvious to a person skilled in the art "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than "&" document member of the same patent family the priority date claimed					
Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report					
04 SEPTEMBER 1995 05 OCT 1995					
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Authorized officer					
Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231					
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230		Telephone No. (703) 308-1235			

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US95/08981

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No	
ζ 	WO, A, 94/12461 (PFIZER INC.) 09 June 1994, see pages 1-7.	1-13, 20-21, 23, 25	
7		14-19, 22, 24, 26	
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US95/08981

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER: US CL:	
548/255, 264.8, 318.5, 326.5, 370.4, 371.4, 372.5; 514/359, 383, 389, 398, 400, 404, 406, 407	
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